

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6611
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2010
RAIL CORRIDOR CONNECTING VIZHINJAM PORT
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the RITES has been engaged as consultant in the development of rail corridor between Balrampur Railway station and Vizhinjam Port in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the RITES has submitted the feasibility report for this project;
- (d) if so, whether the Railways have considered the report; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time frame stipulated for this project?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) and (b): RITES Limited has not been engaged for any such consultancy by Ministry of Railways. However, it has been learnt that RITES Limited was appointed as Consultant by M/s Vizhinjam International Seaport Limited (M/s VISL), a company of Government of Kerala for preparation of pre-feasibility engineering study in connection with rail / road connectivity to M/s VISL.

(c) to (e): Yes, Madam. RITES Limited has submitted the report to Client, who has further submitted it to Southern Railway for their views. Railways cannot give the time frame as the project is to be implemented by a Special Purpose Vehicle viz. M/s VISL, which is not under the Ministry of Railways.